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SEPTEMBER 1985

AMERICAN CITY & COUNTY

administration · engineering · operations

Drinking Wastewater

Can Transit Survive Without Uncle Sam?

Public Works' ra Gole

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September 1985 Vol. 100, No. 9

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About the Cover

The reuse of valuable water resources, even to replenish potable supplies, is gaining acceptance in many communities; treated wastewater can be used for a variety of purposes, including for irrigation, industry and drinking. Photography by Bill Roughen of Atlanta, Georgia.

BPA

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MUNICIPAL COST INDEXES

The **Municipal Cost Index** rose 0.3 percent to 337.4, marking the seventh straight climb in the monthly index. The **Construction Cost Index** had the largest increase for the month, rising 0.5 percent, while the **Consumer Price Index** increased 0.3 percent.

The **Producer Price Index** fell 0.1 percent for the month to 309.5. In this month's marketbasket, commodities showing the largest increases included electric power, furniture, gypsum products, lumber, plywood and trucks. Commodities displaying the largest decreases included fuel oil no. 2, lp gas, natural gas and residual fuel. □

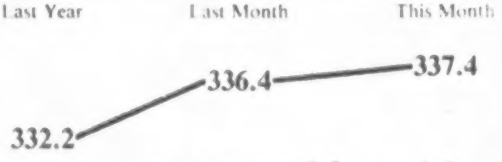
— Jeff Atkinson

THIS MONTH'S MARKETBASKET

	Current Index	Percent Change From: Last Month	Last Year
Air Conditioners	147.5	-0.1	2.0
Apparel	182.8	0.7	2.5
Asphalt Roofing	411.7	-0.7	4.4
Books	132.8	0.8	4.6
Chemicals, Industrial	336.9	0.5	-2.5
Coal	547.2	0.0	0.5
Concrete Products	321.5	0.4	3.7
Construction Machinery	362.0	-0.1	1.1
Diesel Fuel	657.8	-0.5	-5.0
Electric Components	198.8	0.1	3.1
Electric Lamps	344.2	0.0	1.1
Electric Power	460.5	2.7	3.1
Engines, I.C.	347.7	0.0	2.7
Fans, Blowers	359.2	0.1	2.5
Fertilizers, Mixed	258.5	-0.8	-3.9
Floor Coverings	190.5	-0.1	-1.1
Flow Instruments	100.1	-0.1	N/A
Footwear	257.5	1.4	2.8
Foundry Products	362.7	0.0	0.3
Fuel Oil No. 2	672.5	-4.2	-9.2
Furniture	307.1	0.4	3.4
Gasoline	587.8	1.9	0.7
Generator Sets	352.0	0.0	3.5
Glass	221.3	-0.2	-2.2
Glass Containers	374.4	0.6	2.6
Gypsum Products	338.1	6.5	-6.2
Hardware	304.8	0.0	2.9
Heating Equipment	259.6	0.5	2.7
HVAC Controls	124.2	0.8	3.5
LP Gas	522.4	-2.6	-14.9
Lubricants	373.7	-0.1	1.0
Lumber	364.4	4.1	N/A
Metal Fabrications	314.8	0.0	1.2
Millwork	312.3	0.5	2.3
Motor Vehicle Parts	354.5	0.0	0.4
Mowers	261.5	0.0	1.9
Natural Gas	1392.5	-3.6	-2.2
Office Machines	155.0	0.1	0.6
Paint	278.0	0.1	2.6
Paper	304.7	0.0	1.0
Passenger Cars	229.1	0.4	3.8
Plumbing Fixtures	313.1	0.1	3.5
Plywood	237.3	2.2	0.4
Portland Cement	363.8	-0.3	3.1
Residual Fuel	995.5	-6.0	-12.6
Sand, Gravel	310.4	0.5	4.6
Sanitary Papers	376.5	0.1	3.7
Soaps, Detergents	273.5	0.0	3.6
Sporting Goods	202.8	-0.3	-1.0
Steel Mill Products	366.9	-0.1	0.4
Struc. Clay Products	295.7	1.4	3.3
Switchgear	276.2	-0.3	-0.4
Tires, Tubes	237.7	-0.8	-2.2
Transformers	232.6	0.3	1.8
Trucks	333.3	5.4	0.7
Valves	104.9	0.3	2.8
Wire, Cable	202.8	-0.7	-0.2
Wiring Devices	361.5	-0.2	1.3

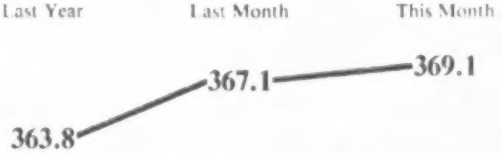
At-A-Glance Changes

MUNICIPAL COST INDEX



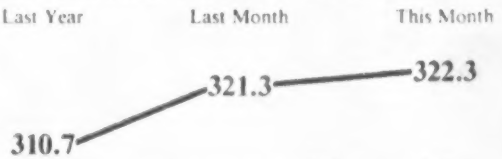
Percent Change From Last: Month **0.3** Year **1.6**

CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX



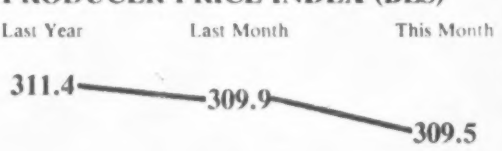
Percent Change From Last: Month **0.5** Year **1.5**

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BLS)



Percent Change From Last: Month **0.3** Year **3.7**

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX (BLS)



Percent Change From Last: Month **-0.1** Year **-0.6**

QUARTERLY MUNICIPAL TRENDS

	Current Level	Percent Change From: Last Qtr.	Last Year
Receipts	545.8B	1.1	7.1
Federal Grants	95.1B	-2.0	5.0
Durable Purchases	14.8B	2.1	6.5
Consumables	37.9B	1.1	6.8
Services	374.6B	2.0	8.2
Structures	45.2B	-1.1	9.2
Salaries, Wages	273.3B	2.1	7.8
Surplus	53.7B	-3.4	-0.4
Employment	13.310M	0.2	1.4